Request for Proposal (RFP): 16-Team Semi-Professional Ice Hockey Tournament
Introduction:

We invite proposals from Louisiana, Florida, New York, and California to host a premier 16-team semi-professional ice hockey tournament. This event offers an outstanding opportunity for the selected city to demonstrate its world-class facilities, exceptional hospitality, and vibrant community spirit.

City Selection Rationale:

Louisiana: With its rich cultural heritage and passion for sports, Louisiana provides an inviting atmosphere for teams and fans alike, promising a memorable tournament experience.

Florida: The state's favorable climate and advanced sports infrastructure make it a prime candidate for hosting large-scale sporting events, ensuring optimal conditions for players and spectators.

New York: Known for its dynamic environment and comprehensive facilities, New York offers an exciting urban backdrop for the tournament, enhancing the overall experience.

California: The diversity and technological advancement of California's communities, combined with its modern arenas, create a unique setting for the tournament, promising innovation and inclusivity.

Event Description:

This tournament will showcase semi-professional teams from the ECHL, including the Utica Comets, Florida Everblades, and more. Known for their competitive play and community engagement. The event will feature high-intensity matches, highlighting the emerging talents within the ice hockey world.

Event Schedule:

Opening Ceremony: Scheduled for early October, often in the evening, around 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM local time. This ceremony will kick off the tournament, introducing the teams and setting an energetic tone for the competition.

Preliminary Matches (Regular Season): From early October to April, weekday games often start between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM local time; weekend games can vary more, with afternoon starts (around 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM) or evening starts like weekday games. This Ensures maximum engagement from local and visiting fans.

Playoffs (Quarterfinals, Semifinals, and Finals): Beginning in mid-April and culminating in mid-May, the tournament will conclude with a best-of-seven series to determine the champion. The teams that advance are determined by their performance in the preliminary matches, with higher-seeded teams generally having home-ice advantage in more games.

Time: Like the regular season, with most games in the evening around 7:00 PM to 7:30 PM local time. Weekend games may have earlier start times.

Venue Specifications:

1. Raising Cane's River Center

Location: Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Capacity: The arena within the River Center can seat up to approximately 8,900 people for hockey games, but this number can vary based on the event configuration.

Facilities: The Raising Cane's River Center Arena is a multi-purpose facility capable of hosting a wide range of events, from concerts to sports. It includes concession stands, VIP areas, and ample seating configurations to accommodate various types of events, including ice hockey.

Ice Quality: The venue is equipped with the necessary infrastructure to install an ice rink for hockey games and ice shows, though it's more commonly used for events other than hockey.

Other Relevant Features: Its downtown location makes it easily accessible and ideal for attendees, with nearby parking, hotels, and restaurants enhancing the overall experience for visitors.

2. CenturyLink Center

Location: Bossier City, Louisiana

Capacity: The arena has a seating capacity of up to 14,000 for concerts, with the capacity for ice hockey games likely being slightly lower due to the rink configuration.

Facilities: This venue is designed to host various events, including concerts, sporting events, and family shows. It features modern amenities, multiple concession areas, luxury suites, and club seats.

Ice Quality: The CenturyLink Center can host ice-related events, indicating it has the infrastructure to maintain a high-quality ice surface suitable for competitive hockey.

Other Relevant Features: The venue's location in Bossier City, near Shreveport, means it's part of a larger metropolitan area with good infrastructure, including hotels, restaurants, and entertainment options, making it suitable for large events and tournaments.

Economic Impact Data:

By adhering to the provided methodology:

Hotel Spending: An estimation of 500 room nights at an average rate of $150 will be used to calculate the total hotel expenditure.

Attendee Spending: With an estimated 1,500 attendee days and a daily allowance of $100, the total spending by attendees will be calculated.

Total Economic Impact: The combined hotel and attendee spending will be multiplied by the economic multiplier of 2.25, showcasing a significant economic boon to the host city.

Total Hotel Spending:

Total Hotel Spending= 500 room nights × $150 per night

Total Attendee Spending:

Total Attendee Spending = 1,500 attendee days × $ 100 per day

Total Economic Impact:

Total Economic Impact= (Total Hotel Spending +Total Attendee Spending) × 2.25

Calculations:

Total Hotel Spending: $75,000

Total Attendee Spending: $150,000

Total Economic Impact: $506,250

Submission Instructions:

Proposals must comprehensively address the city's capacity to meet the tournament's specifications, including logistical arrangements and strategies to enhance both economic and social benefits. Ensuring a proposal that is not only detailed but also reflective of the tournament's overarching goals and values.